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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Estonia)

SUBJECT Aegne Saar (Aegne Island)

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Location and Topography

1. The island of Aegne (Aegne Saar) is located in the Gulf of Finland directly north of Tallinn [59°35'N and 24°45'E] and measures about two kilometers from northwest to southeast and three kilometers from northeast to southwest.

The island was flat and heavily wooded, with the exception of a narrow spit of cleared land at the northeast tip which was sandy and rocky and where military maneuvers and target practice were held. The island sloped gradually to the water's edge and one could walk to the shore at any point. The best sand beach was on the northwest side, the balance of the shoreline being rather rocky. The surf was usually gentle and tides were not high.

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Population

2. [] the island [] was a restricted military area. Only officers and non-commissioned officers were permitted to have their families with them. There were perhaps 20 officers, 60 non-commissioned officers and 250 to 300 enlisted men. There were no civilians on the island with the exception of three stenographers, a teacher and a woman hairdresser.

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Housing

3. Most of the buildings were wooden, although in 1940 construction of concrete block houses was begun on the east side of the island. These were very modern, complete with running water and electricity.

Transportation

4. There was a small gauge railroad which ran from the harbor on the south side of the island along the west coast to the north side. There was one

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